## ORIGINAL



## BEFORE THE ARIZORATION COMMISSION

2	<u>COMMISSIONERS</u>	2011 FEB 10 ₱ 4: 46		Arizona Corporation Commission  DOCKETED	
3	GARY PIERCE, Chairman	AL CORP COMMISSION		FEB 1 0 2011	
4	BOB STUMP SANDRA D. KENNEDY	DOCK	ET CONTROL		
5	PAUL NEWMAN BRENDA BURNS			DOCKETED BY	
6			t		
7	PAC-WEST TELECOMM, INC.		DOCKET NOS.	T-01051B-05-0495 T-03693A-05-0495	
8	Complainant,			1-030/3/1-03-04/3	
9	v.				
	QWEST CORPORATION,				
10	Respondent.				
11			DOCKETNOS	T 02/5/14 05 0415	
12	LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, L	LC,	DOCKET NOS.	T-03654A-05-0415 T-01051B-05-0415	
13	Complainant,	Complainant,		UNOPPOSED JOINT MOTION OF	
14	v.		COMMISSION ST	ΓAFF AND QWEST	
15	QWEST CORPORATION,	CORPORATION TO CONTINUE HEARING			
16	Respondent.				
17				esti.	
	<b>I</b>				

The Commission Utilities Division Staff ("Staff"), joined by Qwest Corporation, hereby moves for an order continuing the date set for oral argument.

The pending merger of Qwest Corporation's parent corporation with CenturyLink, Inc., is before the Commission for approval, in Docket No. T-01051B-10-0194 (the "Merger Docket"). In the Merger Docket, the merging companies have entered into a settlement agreement with the Staff and RUCO that includes conditions that shall attach to merger approval. One of the Staff's objectives in the settlement is to conserve Commission resources. To that end, Staff proposed, and the merging companies agreed, to the following merger condition 41:

The Merged Company shall evaluate litigation involving the Commission and make good faith effort to resolve the issues without further litigation. Following are cases which have entailed significant Commission resources which the Merged Company should include in its evaluation: (a) McLeodUSA v. ACC, Arizona District Court Case No. CV07-21545-PHX-HRH; (b) Qwest v. ACC, Arizona District Court Case No. CV08-2374-PHX-JAT; (c) Pac-West/Level 3 VNXX Remand Proceeding ACC (Docket Nos. T-01051B-05-0495, T-03693A-05-0495, T-01051B-05-0415, T-036564A-05-0415). (Emphasis added).

The parties to the Merger Docket anticipate that the ACC will rule on the merger settlement agreement in late February or early March. The corporate litigants in this case (which is specifically mentioned as one of the proceedings that shall be considered under the condition quoted) have begun discussions in advance of approval of the settlement Condition by the ACC. Assuming the ACC approves the settlement condition, the parties will be obligated to further pursue settlement of this matter.

Staff and Qwest believe that for Condition 41 to have a fair chance to work, sufficient time should be allowed. Preparing for and engaging in the oral argument that is currently scheduled for February 22, 2011 will not advance the prospects of meaningful discussion, and may even harden the positions of the litigants. In light of these developments and considerations, Staff and Qwest respectfully request that the hearing for oral argument be continued to a date which shall be set approximately two months subsequent to such order as the Commission may issue with respect to Condition 41 in the settlement between the merging companies. The undersigned are authorized by the respective counsel for Pac-West Telecomm and Level 3 to state that those parties do not oppose this motion for a short delay.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 10th day of February, 2011.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION UTILITIES DIVISION STAFF

Maureen Scott, Senior Staff Counsel

Legal Division

Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street 1 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 2 **QWEST CORPORATION** 3 4 Norman G. Curtright 5 Associate General Counsel, Qwest 20 E. Thomas Rd., 16<sup>th</sup> Floor 6 Phoenix, Arizona 85012 8 9 10 11 12 13 **ORIGINAL** and 13 COPIES of the foregoing filed this 10th day of February, 2011 with: 14 **Docket Control** 15 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1200 West Washington Street 16 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 17 COPIES of the foregoing hand-delivered this same day to: 18 Janice Alward, Chief Counsel 19 Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 20 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 21 Maureen Scott, Staff Attorney 22 Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 23 1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 24 Steve Olea, Director 25 **Utilities Division** ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 26

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